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# Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2006

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# Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2006

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*Note*

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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# Letter of transmittal

[20 July 2006]

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith to the General Assembly the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/111 of 8 December 2005. The report covers the work of the Special Committee during 2006.

(*Signed*) Julian Robert **Hunte**
Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard
to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of
Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Kofi Annan
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York

# Chapter I

# Establishment, organization and activities of the Special Committee

## A. Establishment of the Special Committee

1. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was established by the General Assembly pursuant to its resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961. The Special Committee was requested to examine the application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration.

2. At its seventeenth session, after considering the report of the Special Committee,[1] the General Assembly adopted resolution 1810 (XVII) of 17 December 1962, by which it enlarged the Special Committee with the addition of seven new members. In paragraph 8 (a) of that resolution, the Assembly invited the Special Committee "to continue to seek the most suitable ways and means for the speedy and total application of the Declaration to all territories which have not yet attained independence".

3. At the same session, by its resolution 1805 (XVII) of 14 December 1962 on the question of South West Africa, the General Assembly requested the Special Committee to discharge, mutatis mutandis, the tasks assigned to the Special Committee for South West Africa by resolution 1702 (XVI) of 19 December 1961. By its resolution 1806 (XVII) of 14 December 1962, the Assembly decided to dissolve the Special Committee for South West Africa.

4. At its eighteenth session, by resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, the General Assembly decided to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations. It also requested the Special Committee to take that information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration in each of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to undertake any special study and prepare any special report it might consider necessary.

5. At the same session and at each subsequent session, the General Assembly, after considering the report of the Special Committee,[2] has adopted a resolution renewing the mandate of the Special Committee.

6. On the occasion of the tenth, twentieth, twenty-fifth and thirtieth anniversaries of the Declaration, the General Assembly, by approving the related reports of the Special Committee, adopted resolutions 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, 35/118 of 11 December 1980, 40/56 of 2 December 1985 and 45/33 of 20 November 1990,

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Annexes*, addendum to agenda item 25, document A/5238.

[2] See the reports of the Special Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its eighteenth to sixtieth sessions. For the most recent, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/59/23); and ibid., *Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/60/23).

containing a series of recommendations with a view to facilitating the speedy implementation of the Declaration.

7. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly, by adopting resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsed as a plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism the proposals contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General dated 13 December 1991 (A/46/634/Rev.1 and Corr.1).

8. At its fifty-fifth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, declaring the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and called upon Member States to redouble their efforts to implement the plan of action, as contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General dated 13 December 1991 (A/46/634/Rev.1 and Corr.1), updated where necessary, to serve as the plan of action for the Second Decade. The updated plan of action is contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism" (A/56/61).

9. At its sixtieth session, after considering the report of the Special Committee,[3] the General Assembly adopted resolution 60/119 of 8 December 2005, in which it approved the report of the Special Committee covering its work during 2005 and requested the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the Second International Decade in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence. In addition, the Assembly reaffirmed that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories were an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and called upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate United Nations visiting missions to the Territories, and also called upon the administering Powers that had not participated formally in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its session in 2006.

10. In addition to resolution 60/119, the General Assembly adopted 11 other resolutions and a decision relating to specific items considered by the Special Committee in 2005, which are listed below.

## I. Resolutions, consensus and decisions concerning specific Territories

### Resolutions

| *Territory* | *Resolution number* | *Date of adoption* |
|---|---|---|
| Falkland Islands (Malvinas) | 58/316* | 1 July 2004 |
| Western Sahara | 60/114 | 8 December 2005 |
| New Caledonia | 60/115 | 8 December 2005 |
| Tokelau | 60/116 | 8 December 2005 |

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/60/23).

| *Territory* | *Resolution number* | *Date of adoption* |
|---|---|---|
| American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands | 60/117 A and B | 8 December 2005 |

* In accordance with paragraph 4 (b) of the annex to resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004, the item should remain on the agenda for consideration upon notification by a Member State.

**Decisions**

| *Territory/Title* | *Decision number* | *Date of adoption* |
|---|---|---|
| Gibraltar | 60/525 | 8 December 2005 |

## 2. Resolutions concerning other items

| *Title* | *Resolution number* | *Date of adoption* |
|---|---|---|
| Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations | 60/110 | 8 December 2005 |
| Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories | 60/111 | 8 December 2005 |
| Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations | 60/112 | 8 December 2005 |
| Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories | 60/113 | 8 December 2005 |
| Dissemination of information on decolonization | 60/118 | 8 December 2005 |
| Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism | 60/120 | 8 December 2005 |

## 3. Other resolutions and decisions relevant to the work of the Special Committee

11. Other resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixtieth session that were relevant to the work of and were taken into consideration by the Special Committee are listed in a note by the Secretary-General on the organization of work of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/2006/L.1).

## 4. Membership of the Special Committee

12. As at 1 January 2006, the Special Committee was composed of the following 27 members: Antigua and Barbuda, Bolivia, Chile, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominica, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Mali, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic,

Timor-Leste, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

13. A list of representatives who attended the meetings of the Special Committee in 2006 appears in document A/AC.109/2006/INF/1.

## B. Opening of the meetings of the Special Committee in 2006 and election of officers

14. The Deputy Secretary-General addressed the Special Committee at its 1st meeting, on 23 February 2006. The Chairman made a statement at that meeting. Statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, the Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Congo and Dominica. The representative of New Zealand, in its capacity as an administering Power, also made a statement (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.1).

15. At the same meeting, the Special Committee unanimously elected the following officers:

*Chairman*:
Julian Robert Hunte (Saint Lucia)

*Vice-Chairmen*:
Rodrigo Malmierca Diaz (Cuba)
Luc Joseph Okio (Congo)[4]

*Rapporteur*:
Milad Atieh (Syrian Arab Republic)

## C. Organization of work

16. At its 1st meeting, on 23 February 2006, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman, the Special Committee decided to maintain its Bureau as the only subsidiary body of the Committee. The Special Committee also decided to adopt the suggestions of the Chairman relating to the allocation of items and the procedure for their consideration (see A/AC.109/2006/L.2).

17. Also at the 1st meeting, the Chairman made a statement relating to the organization of work (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.1).

18. At the same meeting, the Chairman also informed the Committee that Angola, Iceland, Namibia, Peru and Thailand, as well as the Holy See, had requested to participate as observers, in the opening meeting of the Committee. The Committee decided to accede to those requests. The Committee also acceded to the participation in the meeting of delegates of Algeria, Argentina, Morocco and Spain.

19. At the 5th meeting, on 6 June 2006, the Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegation of Spain had expressed the wish to participate in the proceedings of the Special Committee on the question of Gibraltar. The Special Committee decided to accede to that request.

[4] Elected at the 2nd meeting, on 29 March 2006.

20. At the 8th meeting, on 12 June 2006, the Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegation of Panama had expressed the wish to participate in the resumed session of the Special Committee. The Special Committee decided to accede to that request.

21. At the 11th meeting, on 15 June 2006, the Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegations of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay (on behalf of the States members of the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR: Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay), as well as Bolivia and Chile), had requested to participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas). The Special Committee decided to accede to those requests.

## D. Meetings of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies

22. In keeping with its resolve to continue taking all possible measures to rationalize the organization of its work, and with the full and close cooperation of its entire membership, the Special Committee and its subsidiary body were again able to keep to a minimum the number of their formal meetings, as indicated below, by holding, whenever possible, informal meetings and extensive consultations through officers of the Special Committee.

### 1. Special Committee

23. The Special Committee held 14 meetings at Headquarters during 2006, as follows:

(a) First part of the session: 1st meeting, 23 February; 2nd meeting, 29 March; 3rd meeting, 27 April.

(b) Second part of the session: 4th and 5th meetings, 5 and 6 June; 6th and 7th meetings, 7 and 9 June; 8th, 9th and 10th meetings, 12 and 13 June; 11th and 12th meetings, 15 and 16 June; 13th and 14th meetings, 22 and 30 June.

24. During the session, the Special Committee considered in plenary meetings the following questions and adopted decisions thereon, as indicated below:

| *Question* | *Meeting* | *Decision* |
|---|---|---|
| Dissemination of information on decolonization | 4th, 12th | Chap. XII, draft resolution VII |
| Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations | 4th, 6th | Chap. XII, draft resolution I |
| Question of sending visiting missions to Territories | 4th, 7th | Chap. IV, para. 111 |
| Special Committee decision of 13 June 2005 concerning Puerto Rico | 8th, 9th | Chap. I, para. 33 |

| *Question* | *Meeting* | *Decision* |
|---|---|---|
| **Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands** | 12th | Chap. XII, draft resolution VI |
| Question of Tokelau | 13th | Chap. XII, draft resolution V |
| Falkland Islands (Malvinas) | 11th | Chap. XI, para. 182 |
| Gibraltar | 5th | Chap. VIII |
| Question of New Caledonia | 12th, 13th | Chap. XII, draft resolution IV |
| Western Sahara | 5th | Chap. VIII, para. 155 |
| Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations | 12th | Chap. XII, draft resolution III |
| Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories | 12th | Chap. XII, draft resolution II |
| Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples | 12th | Chap. XII, draft resolution VIII |

## 2. Subsidiary bodies

### Bureau

25. At its 1st meeting, on 23 February 2006, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (see A/AC.109/2006/L.2), the Special Committee decided to maintain its Bureau as the only subsidiary body of the Committee. During the period covered by the present report, the Bureau held 12 meetings.

26. At its 14th meeting, on 30 June 2006, following the statement by the Chairman, the Special Committee adopted a report on pending matters related to its work (A/AC.109/2006/L.14), without a vote.

## E. Question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable

27. At its 1st meeting, on 23 February 2006, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (see A/AC.109/2006/L.2), the Special Committee decided to take the question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable as appropriate. In taking that decision, the Special Committee recalled that, in its report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session,[5] it had stated that, subject to any directives that the Assembly might wish to give in that connection, it would continue, as part of its programme of work for 2006, to review the list of Territories to which the Declaration applied. The Special Committee also recalled that, in paragraph 16 of its resolution 60/119, the Assembly had approved the report of the Special Committee, including the programme of work envisaged by the Special Committee for 2006.

28. At its 14th meeting, on 30 June 2006, the Special Committee decided to continue its consideration of the question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable at its next session, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give at its sixty-first session (see A/AC.109/2006/L.14, para. 11).

### Special Committee decision of 13 June 2005 concerning Puerto Rico[6]

29. At its 1st meeting, on 23 February 2006, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (see A/AC.109/2006/L.2), the Special Committee decided to take up as appropriate the item entitled "Special Committee decision of 13 June 2005 concerning Puerto Rico" and to consider it at plenary meetings.

30. At the 4th, 6th and 8th meetings, on 5, 7 and 12 June 2006, the Chairman drew attention to a number of communications received from organizations expressing the wish to be heard on Puerto Rico by the Special Committee. At its 4th, 6th and 8th meetings, the Special Committee agreed to accede to those requests and heard the representatives of the organizations concerned at its 8th, 9th and 10th meetings (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.8, 9 and 10), as follows:

(a) *8th meeting*: Julio E. Fontanet Maldonado, Colegio de Abogados de Puerto Rico; Angel Ortiz-Guzmán, PROELA; Fernando J. Martín-García, Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño; Aleida Centeno Rodríguez, Puertorriqueños en Defensa del Patrimonio Nacional; Ivan A. Rivera, Colectivo Autonomista Puertorriqueño; Gustavo Carvajal Moreno, Conferencia Permanente de Partidos Políticos de América Latina y el Caribe; Raúl Alfonsín, Comité para América Latina y el Caribe de la Internacional Socialista; Vanessa Ramos, American Association of Jurists; Juan Mari Brás, Causa Común Independentista and Comité Puerto Rico en la ONU; José Castillo, Partido Nacionalista de Puerto Rico; Néstor R. Duprey Salgado, Movimiento Autonomista Socialdemócrata de Puerto Rico; Edgardo Ojeda Serrano, MINH Zona de Mayaguez; Miguel Sánchez Rivera, Coordinadora

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/60/23), chap. I, para. 27.

[6] Ibid., para. 33.

Rompiendo el Perímetro; Benjamín Ramos Rosado, ProLibertad Freedom Campaign; and Ismael Guadlupe Ortíz, Vieques, Si!;

(b) *9th meeting*: Miriam Ramírez, U.S. Citizens from Puerto Rico, Inc.; René Torres Platet, Gran Oriente Nacional de Puerto Rico; Francisco Velgara, Campaña de Apoyo a Vieques; Betty Brassell, United for Vieques, Puerto Rico, Inc.; Héctor Pesquera Sevillano, Movimiento Independentista Nacional Hostosiano; Eduardo Bhatia, Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration; Ramón Nenadich, Consejo Nacional para la Descolonización; William Estrada, Socialist Workers Party; Manuel Rodríguez Banchs, Frente Socialista de Puerto Rico; Carlos Dalmau, Status Commission of the Popular Democratic Party; Javier Irizarry, Asociación Estudiantes Hostosianos por la Independencia; Elsie Valdes de Lizardi, Puertorriqueños ante la ONU, Inc.; Enrique Baquero, Fundación Acción Democrática Puertorriqueña; Cristóbal Berrios, Acción Civil para el Status de Puerto Rico, Inc.; Nilda Luz Rexach, National Advancement for Puerto Rican Culture; José Adamés, Centro Literario Anacaona; and Mary Anne Grady Flores, Ithaca Catholic Worker Vieques Support Group;

(c) *10th meeting*: Manuel Rivera, Puertorriqueños Unidos En Action; Anita Velez-Mitchell, Primavida Inc.; and Phillip Arroyo, Young Professionals for Puerto Rico Democracy.

31. At the 8th meeting, on 12 June, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.7. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela joined in co-sponsoring the draft resolution (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.8).

32. At the 9th meeting, on 12 June, following statements by the representatives of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.7 without a vote (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.9).

33. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba made a statement (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.9).

34. Draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.7, adopted by the Special Committee at its 9th meeting, on 12 June 2006, reads as follows:

**Special Committee decision of 13 June 2005 concerning Puerto Rico**

*The Special Committee*,

*Bearing in mind* the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as the resolutions and decisions of the Special Committee concerning Puerto Rico,

*Considering* that the period 1990-2000 was proclaimed by the General Assembly, in its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988, as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and that by resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, the General Assembly declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Bearing in mind* the 24 resolutions and decisions adopted by the Special Committee on the question of Puerto Rico, contained in the reports of the Special

Committee to the General Assembly, in particular those adopted without a vote in recent years,

*Recalling* that 25 July 2006 marks the one hundred and eighth anniversary of the intervention in Puerto Rico by the United States of America,

*Also recalling* the diverse initiatives taken by the political representatives of Puerto Rico and the United States in recent years, which have thus far failed to set in motion the process of decolonization of Puerto Rico,

*Stressing* the need for the United States to lay the groundwork for the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the resolutions and decisions of the Special Committee concerning Puerto Rico,

*Noting* that the inter-agency Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status designated by the President of the United States, which submitted its report on 22 December 2005, affirmed that Puerto Rico is a territory subject to United States congressional authority,

*Also noting* the debate in Puerto Rico on the search for a procedure that would make it possible to launch the process of decolonization of Puerto Rico, and aware of the principle that any initiative for the solution of the political status of Puerto Rico should originate from the people of Puerto Rico,

*Aware* that Vieques Island, Puerto Rico, was used for over 60 years by the United States Marines to carry out military exercises, with negative consequences for the health of the population, the environment and the economic and social development of that Puerto Rican municipality,

*Recalling* the decision of the Government of the United States to put an end to the bombings and military exercises on Vieques Island from 1 May 2003, which was the outcome of the prolonged process conducted during years of peaceful protests carried out by the people of Puerto Rico as well as the wide campaign of international solidarity, which has been appropriately reflected in the work and documents of the Special Committee,

*Noting* the consensus existing among the people and the Government of Puerto Rico on the necessity of ensuring the clean-up, decontamination and return to the people of Puerto Rico of all the territory previously used for military exercises and installations, and of using them for the social and economic development of Puerto Rico,

*Recalling* the release of several Puerto Rican political prisoners during the past few years,

*Noting* the consensus among the people of Puerto Rico in favour of the release of the Puerto Rican political prisoners who have been serving sentences in United States prisons for more than 25 years for cases related to the struggle for Puerto Rico's independence, as well as those serving sentences for cases related to the Vieques Island struggle for peace,

*Also noting* the concern of the people of Puerto Rico regarding violent actions, including repression and intimidation, carried out in recent months against Puerto Rican independence fighters in Puerto Rico,

*Further noting* that the final document of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Putrajaya, Malaysia, from 27 to 30 May 2006, reaffirms the right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence on the basis of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), calls on the Government of the United States to assume its responsibility to expedite a process that will allow the Puerto Rican people to fully exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, and urges the Government of the United States to return the occupied land and installations on Vieques Island and at the Roosevelt Roads Naval Station to the Puerto Rican people, who constitute a Latin American and Caribbean nation,

*Having heard* statements and testimonies representative of various viewpoints among the people of Puerto Rico and their social institutions,

*Having considered* the report of the Rapporteur of the Special Committee on the implementation of the resolutions concerning Puerto Rico,[7]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence in conformity with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the applicability of the fundamental principles of that resolution to the question of Puerto Rico;

2. *Reiterates* that the Puerto Rican people constitute a Latin American and Caribbean nation that has its own unequivocal national identity;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of the United States of America to assume its responsibility to expedite a process that will allow the Puerto Rican people fully to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the resolutions and decisions of the Special Committee concerning Puerto Rico;

4. *Notes* the debate in Puerto Rico on the implementation of a mechanism that would ensure the full participation of representatives of all viewpoints prevailing in Puerto Rico, aware of the principle that any initiative for the solution of the political status of Puerto Rico should originate from the people of Puerto Rico;

5. *Expresses serious concern* regarding actions carried out against Puerto Rican independence fighters in the last few months, and encourages an investigation of those actions;

6. *Reiterates once again* the hope that the General Assembly will give comprehensive consideration to the question of Puerto Rico in all its aspects;

7. *Urges* the Government of the United States, in line with the need to guarantee the Puerto Rican people their legitimate right to self-determination and the protection of their human rights, to return the occupied land and installations on Vieques Island and in Ceiba to the people of Puerto Rico; respect fundamental human rights, such as the right to health and economic development; assume responsibility for and cover the costs of the process of cleaning up and decontaminating the impact areas previously used in military exercises; and address the serious consequences of its military activity for the health of the inhabitants of Vieques Island and the environment;

[7] A/AC.109/2006/L.3.

8. *Requests* the President of the United States of America to release all Puerto Rican political prisoners serving sentences in United States prisons for over 25 years for cases relating to the struggle for the independence of Puerto Rico, as well as those serving sentences for cases relating to the Vieques Island peace struggle;

9. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report prepared by the Rapporteur of the Special Committee, in compliance with its resolution of 13 June 2005;

10. *Requests* the Rapporteur to report to the Special Committee in 2007 on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to keep the question of Puerto Rico under continuous review.

## F. Consideration of other matters

35. At its 1st meeting, on 23 February 2006, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (see A/AC.109/2006/L.2), the Special Committee decided to consider in plenary meetings the questions of compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on decolonization, holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters, pattern of conferences and other questions mentioned in paragraphs 36-39 below.

### 1. Compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other resolutions on decolonization

36. With reference to a decision listed in paragraph 34 above, the Special Committee took it into account in its consideration of specific items.

### 2. Question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters

37. Having regard to its programme of work for 2006, the Special Committee, at its 13th meeting, on 22 June 2006, considered the question of holding meetings away from Headquarters, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI) and paragraph 3 (9) of resolution 2621 (XXV) by which the Assembly authorized the Special Committee to meet elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters whenever and wherever such meetings might be required for the effective discharge of its functions. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided that it would consider accepting such invitations as might be received in 2007 and that, when particulars of such meetings had become known, it would request the Secretary-General to seek the necessary budgetary provision in accordance with established procedure (see A/AC.109/2006/L.14, paras. 2 and 3).

### 3. Pattern of conferences

38. Further recalling the measures it had taken theretofore in that connection, the Special Committee decided to continue to exercise its initiatives in the effective utilization of the limited conference resources and the further reduction of its documentation requirements by circulating communications and information material, as far as possible, in the form of informal notes and aides-memoires in the original language of submission, thus curtailing documentation requirements and

accruing considerable savings for the Organization. A list of the documents issued by the Special Committee in 2006 is contained in the annex to the present chapter.

39. At its 13th meeting, on 22 June 2006, the Special Committee considered the item and noted that, during the year, it had closely followed the guidelines set forth in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the pattern of conferences, in particular resolutions 60/236 A of 23 December 2005 and 60/236 B of 6 May 2006. By organizing its programme of work effectively and holding extensive consultations, the Committee had striven to keep the number of its formal meetings to a minimum. The Special Committee decided, taking into account its probable workload for 2007, to consider holding its meetings in accordance with the following schedule:

(a) *Plenary*

| | |
|---|---|
| February/March/April | As required |
| June | Up to 30 meetings |
| | (6-8 meetings a week) |

(b) *Bureau*

| | |
|---|---|
| February-June | 20 meetings |

It was understood that that programme would not preclude the holding of any ad hoc meetings that might be warranted and that the Special Committee might, in early 2007, review the schedule of meetings on the basis of any new developments. The Special Committee decided, subject to any directives given by the General Assembly, to strive, while fulfilling its mandate, to keep its meetings to a minimum (see A/AC.109/2006/L.14, paras. 5 and 7).

### 4. Control and limitation of documentation

40. At its 13th and 14th meetings, on 22 and 30 June 2006, the Special Committee considered the question of the control and limitation of documentation and noted that, during the year, it had taken further measures to control and limit its documentation in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 34/50 of 23 November 1979, 39/68 D of 13 December 1984, 51/211 B of 18 December 1996 and 60/236 B. The Special Committee noted that, in General Assembly resolution 50/206 B of 23 December 1995, the Assembly had approved the recommendation of the Special Committee to replace its verbatim records with summary records. Having reviewed the need for such records, the Special Committee decided to maintain its summary records (see A/AC.109/2006/L.14, paras. 8-10).

### 5. Cooperation and participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee

41. In compliance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the delegation of New Zealand, as an administering Power, continued to participate, in accordance with established procedure, in the related work of the Special Committee (see chap. X). The delegation of France also participated in the related work of the Committee on the question of New Caledonia.

42. The delegations of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America did not formally participate in the work of the Special Committee.[8]

43. In a related context, the Special Committee, at its 4th meeting, on 7 June 2006, adopted a resolution on the question of sending visiting missions to Territories. By that resolution, the Special Committee noted with appreciation that, at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand, two visiting missions had been dispatched to Tokelau, in July 1994 and August 2002, as well as a mission to observe the referendum in Tokelau in February 2006. It also noted with satisfaction the cooperation of the United Kingdom, as an administering Power, in facilitating the Special Mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in April 2006. It called upon the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations by facilitating United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration (see chap. IV, para 112).

## 6. Participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee

44. At its 13th and 14th meetings, on 22 and 30 June 2006, the Special Committee considered the question of the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in its work and decided that the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee at Headquarters, as recommended in the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (A/56/61, annex), should continue to be facilitated through the reimbursement by the United Nations of the expenses relating to their participation under the terms of the guidelines amended by the Committee and approved by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session (see A/AC.109/L.1791, annex, and A/AC.109/L.1804). In that regard, the Special Committee decided to consider the guidelines at its plenary meetings with a view to amending them further, where appropriate (see A/AC.109/2006/L.14, para. 15).

## 7. Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories

45. The question of the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories was considered by the Special Committee at its 4th meeting, on 5 June 2006.

## 8. Representation at seminars, meetings and conferences of intergovernmental and other organizations

46. At its 13th meeting, on 22 June 2006, the Special Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the Committee continue to be represented at seminars, meetings and conferences organized by United Nations bodies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization. In keeping with its decision of 23 February 2006, the Committee would authorize its Chairman to hold consultations, as appropriate, concerning its participation in those meetings, as well as the level of representation, when

[8] For the explanation of their non-participation, see documents A/47/86, A/42/651, annex, and *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/41/23), chap. I, paras. 76 and 77.

accepting invitations. In accordance with established practice and on the basis of the principle of rotation, the Chairman would hold consultations with the Bureau members, who, in turn, would consult with the members of the Committee from their respective regional groups. The Special Committee also decided that the Chairman would also hold consultations with that member of the Committee whose regional group was not represented in the Bureau. It also decided to recommend that the General Assembly make appropriate budgetary provisions to cover such activities in 2007 (see A/AC.109/2006/L.14, para. 4).

### 9. Report of the Special Committee to the General Assembly

47. At its 1st meeting, on 23 February 2006, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (see A/AC.109/2006/L.2), and in accordance with paragraph 31 of General Assembly decision 34/401 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the Assembly and based on practice initiated by the Committee in 2005, the Committee decided to continue to formulate its decisions in General Assembly form and to submit them to the Assembly at its sixty-first session.

48. At its 13th meeting, on 22 June 2006, the Special Committee, on the proposal of the Chairman, authorized the Rapporteur to submit directly to the Assembly the report in accordance with established practice and procedure.

### 10. Other questions

49. At its 1st meeting, on 23 February 2006, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (see A/AC.109/2006/L.2), the Special Committee decided, in its examination of specific Territories, to take into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions and a decision listed in the note by the Secretary-General on the organization of work of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/2006/L.1, para. 11). These resolutions and a decision were taken into account during the consideration of specific Territories and other items in plenary meetings.

## G. Relations with United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

### 1. Economic and Social Council

50. In connection with the Special Committee's consideration of the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, and in accordance with paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 60/112 of 8 December 2005 relating to the item, consultations were held between the President of the Economic and Social Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee to consider appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly (see E/2006/47).

### 2. Human Rights Council

51. In the context of the reform of the United Nations human rights machinery and the establishment of the Human Rights Council by the General Assembly in

Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 and the subsequent election of 47 members of the Council on 9 May 2006, the Special Committee will take into account the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council and those of the Assembly in its future work.

### 3. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

52. During the year, having regard to the relevant provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Special Committee continued to follow the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

### 4. Specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

53. In accordance with the requests contained in the relevant General Assembly resolutions, the Special Committee continued its consideration of the question of the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. An account of the Special Committee's consideration of the question is set out in chapter VI of the present report.

54. During the year, the Special Committee adopted decisions relating to the extension of assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories. Those decisions are reflected in recommendations of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII).

### 5. Regional intergovernmental organizations

55. Bearing in mind its previous decisions to maintain contact with the African Union, the Caribbean Community and the Pacific Islands Forum on a regular basis in order to assist in the effective discharge of its mandate, the Special Committee, as in previous years, closely followed the work of these regional intergovernmental organizations.

### 6. Movement of Non-Aligned Countries

56. The Special Committee continued to follow closely the work of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries regarding the issue of decolonization.

### 7. Non-governmental organizations

57. Having regard to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 60/118 and 60/119 of 8 December 2005, the Special Committee continued to follow closely the activities of non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization. The participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Special Committee during the period under review is covered in detail in the Special Committee documents (see A/AC.109/2006/18) and the present report (see para. 30 above). The related decisions of the Special Committee are listed in chapter XII of the present report.

## H. Action relating to international conventions and programmes

58. The Special Committee continued to monitor related developments in the Territories, having regard to the relevant provisions of article 15 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX), annex). It also continued to take into account the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies concerned relating to the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

## I. Review of work

59. As noted elsewhere in the present report, the reform processes initiated by the Special Committee in 1991, which brought about a number of changes and improvements in its approach, methods and procedures, continued to be actively pursued in 2006. The measures adopted by the Special Committee included the streamlining and consolidation of a number of its resolutions and eliminating duplication in its documentation (see para. 40 above). The Special Committee's recommendation to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on 12 Territories was consolidated into two resolutions (see chap. XII, draft resolutions V and VI).

60. The Special Committee also considered and submitted recommendations on information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations, the question of sending visiting and special missions to Territories, implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations and economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

61. During 2006, the Special Committee sent a special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands, at the invitation of the Government of the Territory, with the agreement of the administering Power.

62. As noted in chapter II of the present report, the Special Committee decided that a Pacific regional seminar originally scheduled to be held in Timor-Leste from 23 to 25 May 2006 would be postponed to a later date in 2006.

63. In accordance with the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly, the Special Committee continued to seek suitable means for the implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) in all Territories to which the Declaration is applicable and formulated specific proposals and recommendations in that regard.

64. On the question of the publicity to be given to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, the Special Committee adopted a resolution on the dissemination of information on decolonization, which it recommends to the General Assembly for action at its sixty-first session (see chap. XII, draft resolution VII).

65. The Special Committee also continued its review of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable. With regard to its decision of 13 June 2005 concerning Puerto Rico, the Special Committee heard a number of representatives of organizations concerned and adopted a resolution on the matter, which is set out in paragraph 34 of the present chapter.

66. During the period under review, the Special Committee continued the critical review of its work and its programme of future work by holding a number of informal meetings. The Special Committee continued discussion on the case-by-case work programmes for each of the Non-Self-Governing Territories (see sect. J below).

67. In accordance with the guidelines established by the General Assembly, the Special Committee was able during the year to reduce the number of its formal meetings and to minimize the wastage resulting from cancellation of scheduled meetings.

68. During 2006, the work of the Committee focused on carrying out an appraisal and review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Plan of Action for the Decade. In order to carry out its analysis, the Committee sought the input of the representatives of the Territories, experts and non-governmental organizations as well as Member States and intergovernmental organizations. The programme of implementation based on such analysis is further elaborated in document A/60/853-E/2006/75, submitted by the Chairman of the Special Committee.

## J. Future work

69. In accordance with the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly since 1961 and subject to further directives from the Assembly at its sixty-first session, the Special Committee intends to continue during 2007 to pursue its efforts in bringing a speedy end to colonialism, in accordance with Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

70. The Special Committee will continue to fulfil the responsibilities that have been entrusted to it in the context of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, declared by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/146, and particularly with regard to the implementation of the plan of action contained in the annex to document A/56/61.

71. In order to discharge its responsibilities, the Special Committee will keep the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under continuous review, examining the impact of developments concerning each Territory on their political advancement. It will also review the compliance by Member States, particularly the administering Powers, with the relevant decisions and resolutions of the United Nations. In order to carry out this analysis, the Special Committee will continue to seek the input of representatives of the Territories, non-governmental organizations from the Territories and experts inviting them to attend its meetings and regional seminars and also by visiting the Territories to gather first-hand information.

72. In 2007, the Special Committee intends to continue and intensify its dialogue and cooperation with the administering Powers for the purpose of furthering the cause of decolonization through the development of programmes of work for the decolonization of specific Territories. This will be done in agreement with the administering Powers, and with the participation of representatives of the Territories at every stage of discussion. The members of the Special Committee are particularly encouraged by the excellent cooperation of New Zealand and Tokelau at every stage

of the negotiations including the referendum in the exercise of the right of self-determination by the people of Tokelau that was held in February 2006. The Special Committee has been kept informed of consultations and their outcomes through briefings in the aftermath to the referendum in Tokelau. The Special Committee also intends to develop, in consultation with the administering Powers and the people of the Territories concerned, accelerated action plans for the decolonization of certain Territories.

73. The Special Committee has noted with great satisfaction the growing interest and participation of the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the regional seminars it conducts annually and by the wider participation of Member States, specialized agencies and programmes, non-governmental organizations and experts. In this regard, the Special Committee will continue to conduct these seminars, for the purpose of assessing, receiving and disseminating information on the situation in the Territories, in order to facilitate the implementation of its mandate. It will also continue to disseminate information on the work of the Special Committee. In this connection, the Special Committee will hold a seminar in the Caribbean region in 2007.

74. The Special Committee will continue to seek the cooperation of the administering Powers in facilitating United Nations visiting and special missions to the Territories under their administration. Having regard to the constructive role played by such missions in the past, the Special Committee continues to attach the utmost importance to visiting missions as a means of collecting adequate and first-hand information on conditions in the Territories and on the wishes and aspirations of the peoples concerning their future status. Moreover, visiting missions are important in the context of furthering modalities and action plans for decolonization and observing acts of self-determination. The Special Committee will explore the possibility of combining visiting missions to certain Territories with regional seminars in order to optimize its available resources.

75. The Special Committee has consistently reiterated the importance of disseminating information on decolonization as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration. Accordingly, the Committee will continue to use opportunities such as the regional seminars and visiting and special missions to disseminate information on its activities and on the Territories in an effort to mobilize world public opinion to support and assist the people of the Territories in bringing about a speedy end to colonialism. It also intends to develop, together with the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, programmes aimed at Territories that have requested information about self-determination options.

76. The Special Committee will continue to pay attention to the specific problems of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Special Committee is aware that, in addition to general problems facing developing countries, those Territories also suffer handicaps arising from the interplay of such factors as size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, fragility of ecosystems, constraints in transport and communications, great distances from market centres, a highly limited internal market, lack of natural resources and vulnerability to drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal activities. The Special Committee will continue to recommend measures to facilitate a sustained and balanced growth of the fragile economies of those Territories and increased assistance in the

development of all the sectors of their economies, with particular emphasis on programmes of diversification.

77. It is the intention of the Special Committee to continue to follow closely the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international and regional institutions associated with the United Nations. The Special Committee will hold consultations with those organizations, as appropriate, and will continue the practice of holding consultations between its Chairman and the President of the Economic and Social Council. The objective of those consultations is to facilitate the effective implementation of the decisions of the various United Nations bodies and to foster cooperation between the specialized agencies and the regional organizations in providing assistance for the Non-Self-Governing Territories in a given region.

78. The Special Committee will also strive to follow up on the General Assembly's request that the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations be facilitated so that the Territories can benefit from the related activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system.

79. The Special Committee intends to take into account economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue its cooperation with interested States to ensure that the interests of the peoples of those Territories are protected.

80. In the light of the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions concerning the pattern of conferences, and taking into consideration its experience in previous years as well as its probable workload for 2007, the Special Committee has approved a tentative programme of meetings for 2007, which it commends to the Assembly for approval.

81. The Special Committee suggests that, when the General Assembly, at its sixty-first session, examines the question of the implementation of the Declaration, it may wish to take into account the various recommendations of the Special Committee that are reflected in the relevant chapters of the present report and, in particular, to endorse the proposals outlined in the present section in order to enable the Special Committee to carry out the tasks it envisages for 2007. The Special Committee recommends that the Assembly renew its appeal to the administering Powers to take all necessary steps for the implementation of the Declaration and the relevant United Nations resolutions, in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples of the Territories concerned. In that connection, the Special Committee recommends that the Assembly request those administering Powers that have not yet done so to become involved with the work of the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, in particular, to participate actively in the work relating to the Territories under their respective administrations. The Special Committee also recommends that the Assembly continue to invite the administering Powers to allow representatives of the Territories concerned to participate in the discussions in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) and the Special Committee on the items relating to their respective Territories. Furthermore, the Assembly might also wish to renew its appeal to all States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to comply with the various requests addressed to them by the Assembly and the Security Council in their relevant resolutions.

82. The Special Committee recommends that, in approving the programme of work outlined above, the General Assembly make adequate provision to cover the activities that the Special Committee envisages for 2007. In that regard, the Special Committee notes that the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 includes resources to provide for the programme of work of the Special Committee for 2007, based on the level of activities approved for 2006, without prejudice to the decisions to be taken by the Assembly at its sixty-first session. On that basis, the Special Committee understands that, should any additional provisions be required over and above those included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007, proposals for supplementary requirements would be made to the General Assembly for its approval. Finally, the Special Committee expresses the hope that the Secretary-General will continue to provide it with all the facilities and personnel necessary for the discharge of its mandate, taking into account the various tasks assigned to it by the Assembly as well as those arising from decisions taken by it during the current year.

## K. Conclusion of the 2006 session

83. At its 13th meeting, on 22 June 2006, the Chairman made a statement on the occasion of the closing of the 2006 session of the Special Committee (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.13).

## Annex

### List of documents of the Special Committee, 2006

| *Document symbol* | *Title* | *Date* |
|---|---|---|
| **Documents issued in the general series** | | |
| A/AC.109/2006/INF/1 | List of delegations | 16 June 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/1 | Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: Pacific regional seminar on the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: priorities for action, to be held in Dili, Timor-Leste, from 23 to 25 May 2006: guidelines and rules of procedure | 8 March 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/2 | Western Sahara (working paper) | 10 February 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/3 | Saint Helena (working paper) | 22 February 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/4 | Anguilla (working paper) | 22 February 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/5 | Pitcairn (working paper) | 22 February 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/6 | Bermuda (working paper) | 23 February 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/7 | American Samoa (working paper) | 14 March 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/8 | Guam (working paper) | 16 March 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/9 | Gibraltar (working paper) | 29 March 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/10 | Tokelau (working paper) | 14 April 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/11 | United States Virgin Islands (working paper) | 22 March 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/12 | British Virgin Islands (working paper) | 23 March 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/13 and Corr.1 | Montserrat (working paper) | 7 April 2006 and 25 April 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/14 | New Caledonia (working paper) | 29 March 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/15 | Turks and Caicos Islands (working paper) | 6 April 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/16 | Cayman Islands (working paper) | 6 April 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/17 | Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (working paper) | 11 April 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/18 | Dissemination of information on decolonization during the period from June 2005 to March 2006: report of the Secretary-General | 28 March 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/19 | Report of the United Nations Special Mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands, 2006 | 25 April 2006 |

| *Document symbol* | *Title* | *Date* |
|---|---|---|
| A/AC.109/2006/20 | Report of the United Nations Special Mission to observe a referendum on self-determination of Tokelau, February 2006 | 30 May 2006 |
| **Documents issued in the limited series** | | |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.1 | Organization of work: relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly: note by the Secretary-General | 21 December 2005 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.2 | Organization of work: note by the Chairman | 21 December 2005 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.3 | Special Committee decision of 13 June 2005 concerning Puerto Rico: report prepared by the Rapporteur of the Special Committee | 6 April 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.4 and Rev.1 | Dissemination of information on decolonization: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman | 30 May 2006 and 13 June 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.5 | Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman | 30 May 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.6 and Rev. 1 | Question of sending visiting missions to Territories: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman | 30 May 2006 and 7 June 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.7 | Special Committee decision of 13 June 2005 concerning Puerto Rico: draft resolution submitted by Cuba | 7 June 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.8 | Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas): draft resolution submitted by Bolivia, Chile, Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | 6 June 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.9 | Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands: consolidated draft resolution submitted by the Chairman | 9 June 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.10 | Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman | 9 June 2006 |

| *Document symbol* | *Title* | *Date* |
|---|---|---|
| A/AC.109/2006/L.11 | Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman | 9 June 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.12 | Economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman | 14 June 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.13 and Corr.1 | Question of New Caledonia: draft resolution submitted by Fiji and Papua New Guinea | 14 June 2005 and 16 June 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.14 | Report of the Special Committee | 6 July 2006 |
| A/AC.109/2006/L.15 | Question of Tokelau: draft resolution submitted by Fiji and Papua New Guinea | 20 June 2006 |

# Chapter II

## Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

84. At its 1st meeting, on 23 February 2006, the Special Committee, mindful of the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly in the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and by approving the recommendations of its Chairman on the organization of work of the Special Committee for the year (see A/AC.109/2006/L.2), decided to allocate to plenary meetings of the Special Committee, as appropriate, the question of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

85. The Special Committee considered the questions of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the Pacific regional seminar on priorities for action of the Decade at its 1st, 2nd, 5th and 14th meetings, on 23 February, 29 March and 5 and 30 June 2006.

86. The Special Committee had before it the guidelines and rules of procedure for the Pacific regional seminar (A/AC.109/2006/1).

87. At its 2nd meeting, on 29 March, following a statement by the Chairman, the Special Committee approved the composition of the official delegation of the Special Committee to the Pacific regional seminar (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.2).

88. The Special Committee also decided to invite United Nations organs, agencies and institutions to apprise the Secretary-General of actions they had taken in implementation of General Assembly resolution 55/146 and to submit a report to the Assembly at its sixty-second session, subject to any directives that the Assembly might give at its sixty-first session in that regard (see A/AC.109/2006/L.14, para. 13).

89. At the 5th meeting, on 5 June 2006, the Chairman of the Special Committee drew attention of the Committee to the fact that the Pacific regional seminar could not be held as planned in May 2006 due to circumstances beyond the Committee's control. On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to postpone the Pacific regional seminar to a later date in 2006.

90. At its 12th meeting, on 16 June, the Special Committee adopted without a vote draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.10, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples", submitted by the Chairman.

91. At its 14th meeting, on 30 June, the Special Committee decided to defer action on a draft decision appointing Carlyle Corbin as an independent expert to its organizational session in February 2007. The draft decision is contained in the annex to the present chapter.

92. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2005/L.10 adopted by the Special Committee at its 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006, appears in the present report, in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution VIII).

## Annex

### Draft decision

The Special Committee, having regard to the implementation of the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism[a] and the Plan of Implementation of the Decolonization Mandate 2006-2007[b] decides:

(a) To appoint Carlyle Corbin as an independent expert, for a period of three years beginning in February 2007, whose mandate will be to conduct independent analyses on the progress and extent of the achievement towards self-government in each of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the economic and social situation in these Non-Self-Governing Territories.[c] The independent expert would also conduct an independent analysis of the implementation of decolonization resolutions since the first International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and brief the members of the Special Committee and other interested delegations, in an interactive format, on the findings of the analyses, and on overall developments in the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories affecting their self-determination process;[d]

(b) That, in this connection, it is understood that the independent expert is neither a member of the Secretariat nor gratis personnel, but will carry out the entrusted mandate independently as reflected in both the form and substance of the reports and other outputs, without programme budgetary implications for the Special Committee on Decolonization, unless otherwise authorized.

[a] A/56/61, annex.
[b] A/60/853-E/2006/75.
[c] A/60/853-E/2006/75, p. 10.
[d] A/60/853-E/2006/75, p. 10.

# Chapter III
## Dissemination of information on decolonization

93. The Special Committee considered the question of dissemination of information on decolonization at its 4th and 12th meetings, on 5 and 16 June 2006.

94. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, resolution 60/118 on the dissemination of information on decolonization and resolution 60/119 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

95. The Special Committee held consultations with representatives of the Department of Public Information and of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat at its 4th meeting, on 5 June (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.4).

96. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the Special Committee drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the dissemination of information on decolonization (A/AC.109/2006/18) and a draft resolution on the item submitted by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2006/L.4).

97. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Mali. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a further statement (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.4).

98. Also at the same meeting, the Special Committee decided to defer consideration of draft resolution A/AC.109/2005/L.4 until the conclusion of consultations between the Department of Public Information, the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat and the Chairman of the Committee (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.4).

99. At the 12th meeting, on 16 June, the Chairman drew members' attention to a revised draft resolution contained in document A/AC.109/2006/L.4/Rev.1 (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.12).

100. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted a revised draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.4/Rev.1 without a vote.

101. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.4/Rev.1, adopted by the Special Committee at its 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006, appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution VII).

# Chapter IV

## Question of sending visiting missions to Territories

102. The Special Committee considered the question of sending visiting missions to Territories at its 4th and 7th meetings, on 5 and 9 June 2006.

103. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, the pertinent provisions of resolution 60/119 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and resolutions 60/116 and 60/117 A and B of 8 December 2005 relating to specific Territories.

104. In addition, the Special Committee considered the specific Territories referred to it, taking into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 60/118 and 60/119, as well as previous decisions of the Special Committee relating to the question.

105. At the 4th meeting, on 5 June 2006, the Chairman drew attention to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2006/L.6) (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.4).

106. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided to defer consideration of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.6 at a later stage (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.4).

107. At the 7th meeting, on 9 June, the Chairman drew attention to a revised draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2006/L.6/Rev.1) (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.7).

108. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to waive the 24-hour rule under rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and to consider draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.6/Rev.1 (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.7).

109. At the same meeting, following a statement made by the representative of Cuba, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.6/Rev.1, without a vote.

110. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Cuba and Papua New Guinea made statements after the adoption of the draft resolution (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.7).

111. By adopting at its 12th meeting, on 16 June, a consolidated resolution on 11 small Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/AC.109/2006/L.9) and at its 13th meeting, on 22 June 2006, a resolution on Tokelau (A/AC.109/2006/L.15), the Special Committee endorsed a number of conclusions and recommendations concerning the sending of visiting and special missions to Territories, as reflected in its recommendations to the General Assembly (see also chap. XII, draft resolution V, on the question of Tokelau, and draft resolution VI, on the question of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands).

112. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.6/Rev.1 adopted by the Special Committee at its 7th meeting, on 9 June 2006, reads as follows:

**Question of sending visiting and special missions to Territories**

*The Special Committee*,

*Having considered* the question of sending visiting missions to Territories,

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee requesting the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the United Nations by receiving visiting missions in the Territories under their administration,

*Mindful* that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in those Territories and of ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the peoples thereof regarding their future status,

*Conscious* that United Nations visiting missions enhance the capacity of the United Nations to assist the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories in attaining the objectives set forth in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, in other relevant resolutions of the Assembly, and in the plan of action of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Noting with appreciation* the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand, as an administering Power, in the work of the Special Committee, and that, at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand, two visiting missions were dispatched to Tokelau in July 1994[1] and in August 2002,[2] as well as a mission to observe the referendum in Tokelau in February 2006,[3]

*Noting with satisfaction* the cooperation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as an administering Power, in facilitating United Nations special missions to Bermuda in March and May 2005,[4] and to the Turks and Caicos Islands in April 2006[5] at the request of the territorial governments,

*Welcoming* the invitation extended to the Special Committee by the Governor of American Samoa to send a visiting mission to the Territory,

1. *Stresses* the need to dispatch periodic visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories in order to facilitate the full, speedy and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples with respect to those Territories, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization and the plan of action of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Powers that have not yet done so to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations by facilitating United Nations visiting missions to the Territories under their administration, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

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[1] See A/AC.109/2009.
[2] See A/AC.109/2002/31.
[3] See A/AC.109/2006/20.
[4] See A/AC.109/2005/19.
[5] See A/AC.109/2006/19.

3. *Requests* the administering Powers to consider resuming formal cooperation with the Special Committee in furtherance of the decolonization mandate of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* its Chairman to continue consultations with the administering Powers concerned and to report thereon to the Special Committee on the results of those consultations.

# Chapter V

## Economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

113. The Special Committee considered the question of economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories at its 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006.

114. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including, in particular, resolution 60/111 of 8 December 2005 on economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Special Committee also took into account the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 55/146 on the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and resolution 59/136 of 10 December 2004 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. Additionally, the Special Committee took into consideration the relevant documents of other intergovernmental bodies concerned, to which reference is made in the last preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.12, adopted on 16 June 2006.

115. At the 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006, the Chairman drew attention to the various working papers prepared by the Secretariat and containing references to economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/AC.109/2006/4, 6, and 12-16) and to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2006/L.12) (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.4).

116. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to waive the 24-hour rule under rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and to consider draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.12 (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.12).

117. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.12, without a vote.

118. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.12, adopted by the Special Committee at its 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006, appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution II).

# Chapter VI

## Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

119. The Special Committee considered the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations at its 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006.

120. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 60/112 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, in paragraph 23 of which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-first session. The Special Committee also took into account all other resolutions adopted by the Assembly on the subject, including resolution 55/146 declaring the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, as well as the report of the Secretary-General on the Second Decade containing the updated plan of action (A/56/61) and his further report on the Second Decade (A/60/71 and Add.1). The Committee also took into consideration the letter from the Chairman of the Special Committee dated 16 May 2006 to the Secretary-General and the annex thereto (A/60/853-E/2006/75).

121. The Special Committee also took into account the relevant documents of other intergovernmental bodies concerned, to which reference is made in the fifth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.11.

122. At the 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006, the Chairman drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the item (A/61/62) and to the information submitted by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system on their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration (see E/2006/47), as well as to the draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2006/L.11).

123. With the consent of the Special Committee, Carlyle Corbin, the representative of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands, made a statement (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.12).

124. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.11 without a vote.

125. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.11, adopted by the Special Committee at its 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006, appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution III).

# Chapter VII

## Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

126. The Special Committee considered the question of information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations at its 4th and 6th meeting, on 5 and 7 June 2006.

127. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the resolutions of the General Assembly concerning information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter and related questions, in particular resolution 1970 (XVIII), by which the Assembly decided, inter alia, to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and to transfer certain of its functions to the Special Committee, and resolution 60/110 of 8 December 2005, in paragraph 4 of which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures. Furthermore, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 60/119 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and resolution 55/146 relating to the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

128. At the 4th meeting, on 5 June 2006, the Chairman drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the item (A/61/70), which reflected the dates of transmission of information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations by the administering Powers in regard to Territories under their respective administration, as well as to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2006/L.5).

129. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided to defer action on the draft resolution to its next meeting (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.4).

130. At the 6th meeting, on 7 June 2006, the Chairman drew members' attention to a revised draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.5/Rev.1 (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.6).

131. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to waive the 24-hour rule under rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and to consider draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.5/Rev.1 (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.6).

132. At the same meeting, the representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines proposed an oral amendment to the resolution by which the words "in accordance with their Charter obligations" would be inserted in the first line of operative paragraph 2 before the words "to transmit" (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.7).

133. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.5/Rev.1, as orally amended, without a vote.

134. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.5/Rev.1, as orally amended, adopted by the Special Committee at its 6th meeting, on 7 June 2006, appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution I).

# Chapter VIII
# Gibraltar, New Caledonia and Western Sahara

135. In its consideration of the questions of Gibraltar, New Caledonia and Western Sahara, the Special Committee took into account General Assembly resolutions 60/114 and 60/115 of 8 December 2005 and decision 60/525 of the same date, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions.

## A. Gibraltar

136. The Special Committee considered the question of Gibraltar at its 5th meeting, on 6 June 2006.

137. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2006/9).

138. At the 5th meeting, the Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegation of Spain had requested to participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the question. The Special Committee decided to accede to that request.

139. At the same meeting, the representative of Spain made a statement (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.5).

140. At the same meeting, with the consent of the Special Committee, Peter Caruana, Chief Minister of Gibraltar, made a statement (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.5).

141. Also at the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken at the 4th meeting, a statement was made by Joseph Bossano, Leader of the Opposition in Gibraltar (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.5).

142. On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to continue consideration of the question at its next session, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give in that connection at its sixty-first session and in order to facilitate consideration of the question by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), to transmit the relevant documentation to the Assembly.

## B. New Caledonia

143. The Special Committee considered the question of New Caledonia at its 12th and 13th meetings, on 16 and 22 June 2006.

144. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2006/14).

145. At the 12th meeting, on 16 June, the representative of France made a statement in its capacity as administering Power (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.12).

146. At the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.12).

147. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to postpone consideration of the item to its next meeting (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.12).

148. At the 13th meeting, on 22 June, the Chairman drew the attention of the members of the Committee to the working paper and to the text of a draft resolution contained in documents A/AC.109/2006/14 and A/AC.109/2006/L.13 and Corr.1, respectively (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.13).

149. At the same meeting, the representative of Papua New Guinea introduced draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.13 (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.13) with the following oral revisions:

(a) Operative paragraph 2 would become operative paragraph 4 and be reformulated as follows:

"4. *Takes note* of the concerns expressed by a group of indigenous people in New Caledonia regarding their underrepresentation in the Territory's governmental and social structures;"

(b) Operative paragraphs 3 and 4 would become operative paragraphs 2 and 3, accordingly;

(c) Operative paragraph 10 would be replaced with the following text:

"10. *Welcomes* the intention expressed by the French authorities to resolve in the coming years the question of voter registration."

150. Also at the same meeting, the statements were made by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Chairman. The representative of Papua New Guinea made a further statement (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.13).

151. Also at the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.13, as orally revised, without a vote.

152. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.13 adopted by the Special Committee at its 13th meeting, on 22 June 2006, as orally revised, appears in the present report in the form of the recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution IV).

## C. Western Sahara

153. The Special Committee considered the question of Western Sahara at its 5th meeting, on 6 June 2005.

154. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2006/2).

155. At its 5th meeting, on 6 June 2005, in accordance with a decision taken at the outset of the 4th meeting, the Special Committee granted a request for hearing to Ahmed Boukhari of the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguía el-Hamra y de Río de Oro, who made a statement at the same meeting (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.5).

156. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Special Committee decided, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give in that

connection at its sixty-first session and in order to facilitate consideration of the question by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), to transmit the relevant documentation to the Assembly.

# Chapter IX

## American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

157. The Special Committee considered the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands at its 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006.

158. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 60/119 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. In paragraph 8 (c) of that resolution, the Assembly requested the Special Committee, inter alia, to continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend, as appropriate, to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination. The Special Committee also took into account relevant resolutions and decisions on the Territories adopted by the Assembly.

159. The delegations of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, the administering Powers concerned, did not participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the Territories under their administration.

160. The Special Committee considered the 11 Territories at its 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006.

161. During its consideration of the items, the Special Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territories (A/AC.109/2006/3-4; A/AC.109/2006/5-8; A/AC.109/2006/11-13; A/AC.109/2006/15-16).

162. At its 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006, with the consent of the Special Committee, Carlyle Corbin, the representative of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands, made a statement (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.12).

163. At the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken at the 11th meeting, Marlon Cabey made a statement on behalf of the Montserrat Progressive Society of New York (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.12).

164. At the same meeting, the Chairman made a statement wherein he introduced a consolidated draft resolution (A/AC.109/2006/L.9) relating to the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.12).

165. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.9, without a vote.

166. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.9, adopted by the Special Committee at its 12th meeting, on 16 June 2006, appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution VI).

# Chapter X
## Tokelau

167. The Special Committee considered the question of Tokelau at its 13th meeting, on 22 June 2006.

168. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (see A/AC.109/2006/10).

169. At the 13th meeting, on 22 June 2006, the Chairman made a statement under the item (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.13).

170. At the same meeting, with the consent of the Special Committee, the Ulu-o-Tokelau and the Administrator of Tokelau made statements (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.13).

171. At the same meeting, the representative of Papua New Guinea introduced draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.15 (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.13).

172. Also at the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.15, without a vote.

173. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.15, adopted by the Special Committee at its 13th meeting, on 22 June 2006, appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution V).

# Chapter XI
## Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

174. The Special Committee considered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) at its 11th meeting, on 15 June 2006.

175. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account paragraph 4 (b) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions.

176. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2006/17).

177. At the 11th meeting, the Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegations of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay had requested to participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the item. The Special Committee decided to accede to the requests.

178. At the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken at its 5th meeting, statements were made by The Honourable Richard Stevens and The Honourable Richard Davies of the Legislative Council of the Falkland Islands, Maria Angelica del Carmen Vernet and Dolores Reynolds (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.11).

179. At the same meeting, the representative of Chile introduced, also on behalf of Bolivia, Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2006/L.8).

180. At the same meeting, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina made a statement (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.11).

181. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Brazil, Paraguay (on behalf of the States members of MERCOSUR, as well as Bolivia, Chile and Peru), Peru, Uruguay, China, Sierra Leone, the Syrian Arab Republic, Indonesia, Spain, Bolivia, Fiji, Cuba, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Grenada, the Russian Federation and the Congo (see A/AC.109/2006/SR.11).

182. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.8 without a vote.

183. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2006/L.8, adopted by the Special Committee at its 11th meeting, on 15 June 2006, reads as follows:

**Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)**

*The Special Committee,*

*Having considered* the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

*Aware* that the maintenance of colonial situations is incompatible with the United Nations ideal of universal peace,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 2065 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 3160 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 31/49 of 1 December 1976, 37/9 of 4 November 1982, 38/12 of 16 November 1983, 39/6 of 1 November 1984, 40/21 of 27 November 1985, 41/40 of 25 November 1986, 42/19

of 17 November 1987 and 43/25 of 17 November 1988, Special Committee resolutions A/AC.109/756 of 1 September 1983, A/AC.109/793 of 21 August 1984, A/AC.109/842 of 9 August 1985, A/AC.109/885 of 14 August 1986, A/AC.109/930 of 14 August 1987, A/AC.109/972 of 11 August 1988, A/AC.109/1008 of 15 August 1989, A/AC.109/1050 of 14 August 1990, A/AC.109/1087 of 14 August 1991, A/AC.109/1132 of 29 July 1992, A/AC.109/1169 of 14 July 1993, A/AC.109/2003 of 12 July 1994, A/AC.109/2033 of 13 July 1995, A/AC.109/2062 of 22 July 1996, A/AC.109/2096 of 16 June 1997, A/AC.109/2122 of 6 July 1998, A/AC.109/1999/23 of 1 July 1999, A/AC.109/2000/23 of 11 July 2000, A/AC.109/2001/25 of 29 June 2001, A/AC.109/2002/25 of 19 June 2002 and A/AC.109/2003/24 of 16 June 2003, the resolution adopted on 18 June 2004 and the resolution adopted on 15 June 2005 and Security Council resolutions 502 (1982) of 3 April 1982 and 505 (1982) of 26 May 1982,

*Distressed* that, notwithstanding the time that has elapsed since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2065 (XX), this prolonged dispute has not yet been settled,

*Aware* of the interest of the international community in the resumption by the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of their negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful, just and lasting solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

*Expressing* its preoccupation over the fact that the good level of relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom has not yet led to negotiations on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

*Considering* that this situation should facilitate the resumption of the negotiations in order to find a peaceful solution to the dispute over sovereignty,

*Reaffirming* the principles of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and the peaceful settlement of international disputes,

*Calling attention* to the importance of the Secretary-General continuing his efforts to give full effect to the mission entrusted to him by the General Assembly in the resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

*Reaffirming* the need for the parties to take due account of the interests of the population of the islands in accordance with the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

1. *Reiterates* that the way to put an end to the special and particular colonial situation in the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) is the peaceful and negotiated settlement of the dispute over sovereignty between the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

2. *Takes note* of the views expressed by the President of the Argentine Republic on the occasion of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly;

3. *Regrets* that, in spite of the widespread international support for a negotiation between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom that includes all aspects on the future of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), the

implementation of the General Assembly resolutions on this question has not yet started;

4. *Requests* the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom to consolidate the current process of dialogue and cooperation through the resumption of negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 2065 (XX), 3160 (XXVIII), 31/49, 37/9, 38/12, 39/6, 40/21, 41/40, 42/19 and 43/25;

5. *Reiterates* its firm support for the mission of good offices of the Secretary-General in order to assist the parties in complying with the request made by the General Assembly in its resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas);

6. *Decides* to keep under review the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) subject to the directives that the General Assembly has issued and may issue in that regard.

# Chapter XII
## Recommendations

184. The Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

### Draft resolution I
### Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

*Recalling also* its resolution 60/110 of 8 December 2005, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

*Stressing* the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

1. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned in accordance with their Charter obligations to transmit or continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the territories for which they are respectively responsible, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the Territory and the constitutional relationship of the territory to the administering Power, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

[1] A/61/70.

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

4. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures.

## Draft resolution II
## Economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[2]

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly, including, in particular, resolutions 46/181 of 19 December 1991 and 55/146 of 8 December 2000,

*Reaffirming* the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

*Reaffirming also* that any economic or other activity that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

*Reaffirming further* that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

*Aware* of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the economic stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

*Conscious* of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

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[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/61/23), chap. V.

*Conscious also* that foreign economic investment, when undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and also to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

*Concerned* about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Also reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, and of their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Further reaffirms* the need to avoid any economic and other activities that adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Reiterates* that the damaging exploitation and plundering of the marine and other natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, are a threat to the integrity and prosperity of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

12. *Appeals* to trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also appeals to the media to disseminate information about the developments in this regard;

13. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, including the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session.

## Draft resolution III
## Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

*Having also considered* the report of the Secretary-General[3] and the report of the Economic and Social Council[4] on the item,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[5]

*Recalling* its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/49 of 27 July 2005,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

*Conscious* of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV),

*Noting* that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

*Welcoming* the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

*Also welcoming* the current participation in the capacity of observers of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social sphere, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories,

*Noting* that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Stressing* that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

*Stressing also* the importance of securing the necessary resources for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

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[3] A/61/62.

[4] E/2006/47.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/61/23), chap. VI.

*Reaffirming* the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

*Expressing its conviction* that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

*Mindful* of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations resolutions and decisions relating to decolonization,

*Bearing in mind* the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

*Recalling* its resolution 60/112 of 8 December 2005 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;

4. *Reaffirms also* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the

[6] A/61/62.

implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

7. *Urges* those specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

8. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

(a) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(b) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;

(c) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;

(d) The illegal exploitation of the marine resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

10. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

11. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

12. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998[7] and its resolution 598 (XXX) of 2 July 2004,[8] calling for the creation of mechanisms for its associate members to participate in the special sessions of the General Assembly, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to review and assess the implementation of

[7] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21* (E/1998/41), chap. III, sect. G.

[8] Ibid., *2004, Supplement No. 21* (E/2004/41), chap. III, sect. G.

the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories originally participated in the capacity of observer, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

13. *Takes note* of resolution 66 (XXI) of the United Nations Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, adopted on 17 January 2006, in which the Committee expressed support for the implementation of Commission resolution 598 (XXX) and requested the Commission to disseminate a background note on the matter;

14. *Requests* the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the President of the Economic and Social Council;

15. *Requests* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, to prepare an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to disseminate it widely in them;

16. *Welcomes* the continuing initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

17. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

18. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

19. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

21. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the

Special Committee, appropriate measures for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

22. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the necessary measures to implement the resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session.

## Draft resolution IV
## Question of New Caledonia

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of New Caledonia,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to New Caledonia,[9]

*Reaffirming* the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

*Noting* the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

*Noting also*, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

*Noting with satisfaction* the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

1. *Welcomes* the significant developments that have taken place in New Caledonia since the signing of the Nouméa Accord of 5 May 1998 by the representatives of New Caledonia and the Government of France;[10]

[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/61/23), chap. VIII.

[10] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

2. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, in the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony;

3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and also those provisions of the Accord relating to control of immigration and protection of local employment;

4. *Takes note* of the concerns expressed by a group of indigenous people in New Caledonia regarding their underrepresentation in the Territory's governmental and social structures;

5. *Also notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, such as international organizations in the Pacific region, the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, according to their regulations;

6. *Further notes* the agreement between the signatories of the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

7. *Welcomes* the fact that the administering Power invited to New Caledonia, at the time the new institutions were established, a mission of information which comprised representatives of countries of the Pacific region;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations;

9. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa Accord, which is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

10. *Welcomes* the intention expressed by the French authorities to resolve in the coming years the question of voter registration;

11. *Also welcomes* the measures that have been taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon and Nouméa Accords;

12. *Further welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon and Nouméa Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

13. *Notes* the increase by the Government of France in financial assistance to the Territory, amounting to 910 million euros in 2005 for health, education, payment of public-service salaries and funding development schemes;

14. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

15. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, notably the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

16. *Welcomes* the establishment of a new form of cooperation among Australia, France and New Zealand in terms of surveillance of fishing zones, in accordance with the wishes expressed by France during the France-Oceania summit in July 2003;

17. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and territorial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

18. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the accession by New Caledonia to the status of observer in the Pacific Islands Forum, continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum, and notes with satisfaction the request by New Caledonia, with the approval and support of the French authorities, to obtain associate member status in the Pacific Islands Forum;

19. *Welcomes also* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

20. *Welcomes further* the endorsement of the report of the Forum Ministerial Committee on New Caledonia by leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum at its 36th Summit, in October 2005 in Papua New Guinea, and the continuing role of the Forum Ministerial Committee in monitoring developments in the Territory and encouraging closer regional engagements;

21. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

22. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session.

## Draft resolution V
## Question of Tokelau

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the question of Tokelau,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to Tokelau,[11]

[11] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/61/23), chap. X.

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 60/116 of 8 December 2005,

*Noting with appreciation* the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

*Also noting with appreciation* the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

*Recalling* the inauguration in 1999 of a national legislative body, the General Fono, based on village elections by universal adult suffrage and the assumption by that body in June 2003 of full responsibility for the Tokelau budget,

*Recalling also* the report of the United Nations mission dispatched in August 2002 to Tokelau at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand and the representatives of Tokelau,[12]

*Noting* that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

*Recalling* that New Zealand and Tokelau signed in November 2003 a document entitled "Joint statement of the principles of partnership", which sets out in writing, for the first time, the rights and obligations of the two partner countries,

*Bearing in mind* the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association and its decision in August 2005 to hold a referendum on self-government on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a treaty of free association with New Zealand,

1. *Notes* that Tokelau remains firmly committed to the development of its capacity for self-government and to an act of self-determination that would result in Tokelau assuming a status in accordance with the options on future status for Non-Self-Governing Territories contained in principle VI of the annex to General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960;

2. *Welcomes* the substantial progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils), in particular the delegation of the Administrator's powers to the three taupulega with effect from 1 July 2004 and the assumption by each taupulega from that date of full responsibility for the management of all its public services;

3. *Recalls* the decision of the General Fono in November 2003, following extensive consultations in all three villages and a meeting of the Special Committee on the Constitution of Tokelau, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of

[12] A/AC.109/2002/31.

self-government in free association, and the discussions subsequently held between Tokelau and New Zealand pursuant to the General Fono decision;

4. *Recalls also* the decision of the General Fono in August 2005 to hold a referendum on self-government on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a treaty of free association with New Zealand, and notes the enactment by the General Fono of rules for the referendum;

5. *Welcomes* the invitation extended to the United Nations by Tokelau and New Zealand to monitor Tokelau's act of self-determination;

6. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's initiative in devising a strategic economic development plan for the period 2002-2005, and notes that a strategic plan for the period 2006-2009 is now being developed in consultation with New Zealand;

7. *Also acknowledges* the continuing assistance that New Zealand has committed to promoting Tokelau's welfare, as well as the cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme, including the relief and recovery assistance provided in the aftermath of Cyclone Percy in 2005;

8. *Further acknowledges* Tokelau's need for continued support, given the adjustments that are taking place with the strengthening of its capacity for self-government, and the ongoing responsibility of Tokelau's external partners to assist Tokelau in balancing its desire to be self-reliant to the greatest extent possible with its need for external assistance;

9. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the future development needs of Tokelau and the offer of a donor round table by the United Nations Development Programme, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to announce contributions to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to assist this emerging country in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

10. *Also welcomes* the assurance of the Government of New Zealand that it will meet its obligations to the United Nations with respect to Tokelau and abide by the freely expressed wishes of the people of Tokelau with regard to their future status;

11. *Further welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the region towards Tokelau, and their support for its economic and political aspirations and increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

12. *Welcomes* the associate membership of Tokelau in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and its recent accession to membership in the Forum Fisheries Agency, observer status at the Pacific Islands Forum and associate membership in the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops its economy and governance structures;

14. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to transmit information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau to the Secretary-General;

15. *Notes with satisfaction* the successful visit to Tokelau in October 2004 by the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

16. *Notes* the considerable progress made towards the adoption of a Constitution and of national symbols by Tokelau, the steps taken by Tokelau and New Zealand to agree to a draft treaty of free association as a basis for an act of self-determination and the support expressed by Tokelauan communities in New Zealand for the move by Tokelau towards self-determination;

17. *Commends* the professional and transparent conduct of the referendum held to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations from 11 to 15 February 2006;

18. *Notes* that the referendum failed by a narrow margin to produce the two-thirds majority of the valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change Tokelau's status as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand;

19. *Welcomes* the agreement of New Zealand to the request by the Tokelauan Council on Ongoing Government to maintain the referendum package of a draft Constitution and draft Treaty of Free Association as a possible basis for a future act of self-determination by Tokelau;

20. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session.

## Draft resolution VI
## Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

### A
### General

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the questions of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

*Having examined* the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[13]

[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/60/23), chap. IX.

*Recalling* all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Recalling* its resolution 1541 (XV), containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Expressing its concern* that more than forty-five years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[14] there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2010 and the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[15]

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the sentiments of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options of self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Taking note* of the stated positions of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the stated position of the Government of the United States of America on the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration,

*Taking note also* of the stated positions of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories before the Special Committee and in its regional seminars,

*Noting* the constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories affecting the internal structure of governance about which the Special Committee has received information,

*Aware* of the importance both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Convinced also* that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory, under the supervision of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and

[14] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[15] A/56/61, annex.

that the views of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Aware* of the importance of the international financial services for the economies of some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that United Nations visiting and special missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, that some Territories have not received a United Nations visiting mission for a long time and that no visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories, and considering the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers,

*Mindful also* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations embark actively on a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining an understanding of the options of self-determination,

*Mindful*, in this connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters and other venues, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate, and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Mindful also* that the 2006 Pacific regional seminar, originally scheduled to be held in Timor-Leste from 23 to 25 May 2006, is to be rescheduled to a later date in 2006,

*Conscious* of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and, in this connection, bearing in mind the applicability to the Territories of the programmes of action of all United Nations

world conferences[16] and special sessions of the General Assembly in the economic and social sphere,

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Aware* that the Human Rights Committee, as part of its mandate under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[17] reviews the status of the self-determination process of small island Territories under examination by the Special Committee,

*Recalling* the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

*Recognizing* that the annual background working papers prepared by the Secretariat on developments in each of the small Territories,[18] as well as the substantive documentation and information furnished by independent experts, scholars, non-governmental organizations and other independent sources, have provided important inputs in updating the present resolution,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

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[16] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda); report of the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, Yokohama, 23-27 May 1994 (A/CONF.172/9, chap. I); *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I; *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex; *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II; *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex; report of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, Durban, 31 August-8 September 1001 (A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I).

[17] See resolution 2200 (XXI), annex.

[18] See A/AC.109/2006/3-8, 11-13, 15 and 16.

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection reiterates its long-standing call for the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960;

4. *Requests* the administering Powers to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter;

5. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their respective administering Powers;

6. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and recommends that priority continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to follow closely the developments in legislation in the area of international financial services and their impact on the economy in some of the Territories;

8. *Requests* the Territories and the administering Powers to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in those Territories;

9. *Welcomes* the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional activities, including the work of regional organizations;

10. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[19] in particular by expediting the application of the work programme for the decolonization of each Non-Self-Governing Territory, on a case-by-case basis, and by completing the periodic analyses of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration in each Territory;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration, and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Territories;

12. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in a world free of colonialism within the Second International Decade for the

[19] A/56/61, annex.

Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

13. *Notes* that a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories have expressed concern at the procedure followed by some administering Powers, contrary to the wishes of the Territories themselves, of amending or enacting legislation for application to the Territories, either through Orders in Council, in order to apply to the Territories the international treaty obligations of the administering Power, or through unilateral application of laws and regulations;

14. *Takes note* of the constitutional reviews in the Territories administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and led by the territorial Governments, designed to address the internal constitutional structure within the present territorial arrangement;

15. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the midterm review of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[20] and reiterates its long-standing request that the Secretary-General report to the General Assembly at its next session on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the First and Second International Decades;

16. *Reiterates its request* that the Human Rights Committee collaborate with the Special Committee, within the framework of its mandate on the right to self-determination as contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[21] with the aim of exchanging information, given that the Committee reviews political and constitutional developments in many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are under review by the Special Committee;

17. *Requests* the Special Committee to collaborate with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, within the framework of their respective mandates, with the aim of exchanging information on developments in those Non-Self-Governing Territories which are reviewed by each United Nations body;

18. *Also requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

**B**

**Individual territories**

*The General Assembly*,

*Referring* to resolution A above,

**I. American Samoa**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa[22] and other relevant information,

[20] A/60/71.

[21] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[22] A/AC.109/2006/7.

*Taking note also* of the position of the administering Power and the statements of representatives of American Samoa made in the regional seminars expressing satisfaction with the Territory's present relationship with the United States of America,

*Noting* that the Territory's non-voting delegate to the Congress of the United States of America has formally requested that the administering Power declare its official position on the status of American Samoa before the Special Committee,

*Noting with satisfaction* the establishment of the Future Political Status Study Commission, which began its work in June 2006, to study alternative forms of future political status open to American Samoa and assess the advantages and disadvantages of each,

*Recalling* the negative economic impacts of Cyclone Heta in 2004 and Cyclone Olaf in 2005 on the agricultural sector, noting the importance to the economy of remittances and tourism, and bearing in mind the request of the territorial Government to the administering Power to continue to extend favourable tax benefits with regard to its exports,

1. *Notes* that the Department of the Interior of the United States of America provides that the Secretary of the Interior has administrative jurisdiction over American Samoa;[23]

2. *Also notes* that American Samoa continues to be the only United States Territory to receive financial assistance from the administering Power for the operations of the territorial government, and calls upon the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in the diversification of its economy;

3. *Welcomes* the invitation extended to the Special Committee by the Governor of American Samoa and reiterated, most recently at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Canouan, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, from 17 to 19 May 2005, to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, and requests the Chairman of the Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

4. *Takes note* of the statement of the representative of the Governor of the Territory at the Caribbean regional seminar in 2005 requesting the Special Committee to provide information on the process of self-governance, which could be provided within the context of a visiting mission, or by other acceptable means;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in facilitating the work of the newly established Future Political Status Study Commission, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, in the context of its public education programme;

## II. Anguilla

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla[24] and other relevant information,

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[23] Pursuant to Secretary's Order 2657, Department of the Interior, United States of America.

[24] A/AC.109/2006/4.

*Taking note also* of the constitutional review process resumed by the territorial Government in 2006,

*Recalling* the holding of the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, the first time that the seminar had been held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory, and the desire of the territorial Government and the people of Anguilla for a visiting mission by the Special Committee,

*Noting* the appointment by the administering Power of a new Governor who maintains reserved powers in the Territory,

*Aware* that the Government has placed a halt on all new and major foreign investment tourism-related projects in order to carefully manage the development of the island's economy to achieve long-term sustainability,

1. *Welcomes* the establishment of a new Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission in 2006, with the aim of making recommendations to the administering Power on proposed changes to the Constitution in place in the Territory;

2. *Notes* that changes in the visa requirements for Anguillan passport holders entering nearby French Saint Martin could make it more difficult for them to enter the French overseas department, the closest neighbour to the Territory;

3. *Welcomes* the participation of the Territory as an associate member of the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

## III. Bermuda

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda[25] and other relevant information,

*Conscious* of the different viewpoints of the political parties on the future status of the Territory,

*Noting* the statement of the Premier of Bermuda in his Founder's Day address that there could never be a true democracy as long as the country remains a colony or an overseas dependent Territory, and that only with independence can national unity be forged and pride in being Bermudian fully developed,

*Bearing in mind* the conclusions of the report of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda, which visited the Territory in March and May 2005,[26]

1. *Welcomes* the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government;

[25] A/AC.109/2006/6.
[26] A/AC.109/2005/19.

2. *Also welcomes* the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough and meticulous examination of the facts surrounding independence, and takes note of the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a green paper to the House of Assembly followed by a white paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda;

3. *Decides* to follow closely the public consultations on the future political status of Bermuda under way in the Territory, and requests the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, in the context of its public education programme;

## IV. British Virgin Islands

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands[27] and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the 1993 report of the Constitutional Commissioners, appointed by the administering Power to review the existing Constitution, and its recommendation to assess the costs, obligations and liabilities of independence, and the 1996 debate on the report in the Legislative Council,

*Welcoming* the establishment of the Constitutional Commission in 2004 and the completion of its report in 2005 providing recommendations on constitutional modernization, and noting that the Legislative Council of the Territory debated the report in 2005,

*Noting* the appointment by the administering Power of a new Governor who maintains reserved powers in the Territory,

*Also noting* that the Territory continues to emerge as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres,

1. *Takes note* of the statement made by the representative of the Legislative Council of the Territory at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Canouan, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, from 17 to 19 May 2005, who presented an analysis of the internal constitutional review process;

2. *Welcomes* the 2005 report of the Constitutional Commission, which contains a series of recommendations on constitutional advancement, including the scaling back of the powers of the appointed Governor, and also welcomes the discussions which commenced in 2006 between the elected Government and the administering Power on constitutional advancement and devolution of power;

3. *Further welcomes* the ongoing work of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the elected Governments of the British Virgin Islands and the United States Virgin Islands as a mechanism for functional cooperation between the two neighbouring Territories;

[27] A/AC.109/2006/12.

## V. Cayman Islands

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands[28] and other relevant information,

*Noting* the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Commission, which contained a draft constitution for the consideration of the people of the Territory, the 2003 draft constitution offered by the administering Power and the subsequent discussions between the Territory and the administering Power in 2003,

*Also noting* the 2003 visit to the Territory by the Chairman of the Special Committee at the invitation of the Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce,

1. *Takes note* of the decision by the new territorial Government to reopen discussions with the administering Power in 2006 on constitutional modernization with the aim of ascertaining the views of the people by way of referendum;

2. *Also takes note* of the statement made by the representative of the Non-Governmental Organizations Constitutional Working Group of the Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Canouan, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, from 17 to 19 May 2005, which called for a comprehensive educational programme, to be defined by the Special Committee, on the issue of self-determination, as well as a visiting mission to the Territory;

## VI. Guam

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam[29] and other relevant information,

*Recalling* that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

*Recalling also* the requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

*Aware* that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act are no longer continuing and that Guam has established the process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

*Cognizant* that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

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[28] A/AC.109/2006/16.

[29] A/AC.109/2006/8.

*Noting* that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

*Aware* of concerns expressed by many residents regarding the potential social and other impacts of the impending transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory,

*Conscious* that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

*Recalling* the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory, and noting the recommendation of the 1996 Pacific regional seminar for sending a visiting mission to Guam,

*Also recalling* the invitation made in 2000 by the Governor and legislature of the Territory to hold the Pacific regional seminar in the Territory and the opposition to the invitation expressed by the administering Power,

1. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the plebiscite of 1987 and as provided for in Guam law, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government of Guam to enter into negotiations on the matter, and requests the administering Power to inform the Secretary-General of progress to that end;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the elected territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

4. *Further requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes specifically intended to promote the sustainable development of economic activities and enterprises, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

5. *Takes note* of the request by the elected Governor to the administering Power to lift restrictions to allow for foreign airlines to transport passengers between Guam and the United States of America to provide for a more competitive market and increased visitor arrivals;

## VII. Montserrat

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat[30] and other relevant information,

*Taking note with interest* of the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in Montserrat provided by the Chief Minister of the

[30] A/AC.109/2006/13 and Corr.1.

Territory to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at The Valley, Anguilla, from 20 to 22 May 2003,

*Noting with concern* the continued consequences of a volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the Territory's population to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

*Welcoming* the continued assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

*Noting* the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

1. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

2. *Recalls* the 2002 report of the Constitutional Review Commission, which contains a series of recommendations on constitutional advancement, including the devolution of power from the appointed Governor to the elected Government, and the call in favour of a free-association arrangement;

3. *Welcomes* the convening of a committee of the House of Assembly in 2005 to review the report, and the subsequent discussions between the elected Government and the administering Power on constitutional advancement and devolution of power;

**VIII. Pitcairn**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn[31] and other relevant information,

*Taking into account* the unique nature of Pitcairn in terms of population and area,

*Noting* the position of the representative of the elected Government, as expressed at the 2004 Pacific regional seminar, that the people of the Territory did not fully understand all the possibilities or the significance of the various self-determination options that might be available to them, and that the review of the Constitution was deferred to after 2006,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the representatives of Pitcairn on how best to support their economic security;

2. *Takes note* of the position of the representative of the elected Government of the Territory favouring discussions on self-determination in advance of a constitutional review, and notes that a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory would heighten the awareness of the people of their political future;

[31] A/AC.109/2006/5.

## IX. Saint Helena

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena[32] and other relevant information,

*Taking into account* the unique character of Saint Helena, its population and its natural resources,

*Taking note* of the constitutional review process led by the territorial Government and the consultative poll with regard to a new Constitution held in Saint Helena on 25 May 2005,

*Aware* of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial authorities to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the sphere of food production, continuing high unemployment and limited transport and communications,

*Noting* the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Saint Helena,

*Noting also* the importance of the right to nationality for Saint Helenians and their request that it, in principle, be included in the new Constitution,

*Noting with concern* the problem of unemployment on the island and the joint action of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with it,

1. *Welcomes* the continuing constitutional review process and the recent consultative poll led by the Government of Saint Helena in cooperation with the administering Power;

2. *Also welcomes* the decision by the administering Power to provide funding for the construction of an international airport on Saint Helena to become operational in 2010, including all required infrastructure;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socio-economic development challenges, including the high unemployment and the limited transport and communications problems, as well as to support the additional infrastructure required for the airport project;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take into account the concerns of Saint Helenians with regard to the right to nationality;

## X. Turks and Caicos Islands

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands[33] and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Body, which examined the existing Constitution and made recommendations on the internal structure of government and devolution of power from the appointed Governor to the elected Government,

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[32] A/AC.109/2006/3.

[33] A/AC.109/2006/15.

*Welcoming* the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and on the experiences of other small States that had achieved a full measure of self-government,

*Taking note* of the conclusions of the report of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands,[34]

1. *Recalls* the statement made by the Chief Minister of the Territory at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Canouan, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, from 17 to 19 May 2005, that his Government was in favour of a reasonable period of full internal self-government before moving to independence;

2. *Takes note* of the announcement made by the Chief Minister in 2006 of the conclusion of discussions between the territorial Government and the administering Power resulting in an agreement for an advance constitution, which would be circulated to the Government and the opposition for comment and to the general public for information, with the consultative process concluding with a debate in the Legislative Council;

3. *Also takes note* of the significant and steady period of economic expansion, in particular over the last decade, fuelled by the emergence of high-end tourism, and the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of social cohesion in the Territory;

## XI. United States Virgin Islands

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands[35] and other relevant information,

*Taking note with interest* of the statements made and the information provided by the representative of the Governor of the Territory at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Canouan, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, from 17 to 19 May 2005,

*Noting* the continuing interest of the territorial Government in seeking associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and observer status in the Caribbean Community and the pending request by the Territory to the administering Power for the delegation of authority to proceed, as well as the 2003 resolution of the territorial legislature in support of that request,

*Noting also* the expressed interest of the territorial Government in being included in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme and in the records and archives management programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

*Recalling* that the Territory has not received a United Nations visiting mission since 1977, and bearing in mind the formal request of the Territory for such a

[34] A/AC.109/2006/19.

[35] A/AC.109/2006/11.

mission in 1993 to assist the Territory in its political education process and to observe the Territory's only referendum on political status options in its history,

*Noting* the ongoing cooperation between the territorial Government and Denmark on the repatriation of artefacts and archives, and the agreement between the Danish Human Rights Institute and the African Caribbean Reparations and Resettlement Alliance, a non-governmental organization based in the Territory, to examine the question of reparations between the people of Denmark and the people of the United States Virgin Islands with respect to the institution of slavery,

*Also noting* that the convening of a fifth Constitutional Convention to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes the internal governance arrangement, has been postponed to 2007,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

2. *Once again requests* the administering Power to facilitate the participation of the Territory, as appropriate, in various organizations, in particular the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Caribbean Community and the Association of Caribbean States;

3. *Calls for* the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the elected Governments of the United States Virgin Islands and the British Virgin Islands as a mechanism of functional cooperation between the two neighbouring Territories;

5. *Notes* the position of the territorial Government supporting the ownership and control of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and its calls for the return of those marine resources to its jurisdiction.

## Draft resolution VII
## Dissemination of information on decolonization

*The General Assembly*,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[36]

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular Assembly resolution 60/118 of 8 December 2005,

[36] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/61/23), chap. III.

*Recognizing* the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[37]

*Reiterating* the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

*Recognizing* the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Further recognizing* the role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, through its United Nations information centres, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolution 60/112 of 8 December 2005, in which it requested the Department, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, to prepare an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to disseminate it widely in them,

*Aware* of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options of self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to this end, requests the Department of Public Information, including through the United Nations information centres in the relevant regions, to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website by including the statements and scholarly papers presented at the regional seminars, as well as the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to implement the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 60/112 of 8 December 2005 on the preparation of an information leaflet on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee to

[37] A/56/61, annex.

continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(a) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(b) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(c) To develop a programme of collaboration with the appropriate regional and intergovernmental organizations, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, by holding periodic expert briefings and exchanging information;

(d) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(e) To encourage the involvement of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(f) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## Draft resolution VIII
## Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

*The General Assembly*,

*Having examined* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[38]

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 60/119 of 8 December 2005, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, by which it declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

[38] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/61/23).

*Welcoming* the Plan of Implementation of the Decolonization Mandate 2006-2007,[39] which organizes the actions of the decolonization mandate to be carried out by the wider United Nations system,

*Recognizing* that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2001,

*Reconfirming* the need to take measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146,

*Reiterating its conviction* of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

*Noting with satisfaction* the achievements of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

*Stressing* the importance of the formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

*Noting with interest* the cooperation and active participation of some administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

*Taking note* that the Pacific regional seminar, originally scheduled to convene from 23 to 25 May 2006 in Timor-Leste, is to be rescheduled to a later date in 2006,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 55/146, by which it declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all necessary steps to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[40]

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Declaration on the Granting of

[39] A/60/853-E/2006/75, annex.

[40] Resolution 217 A (III).

Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to finalize before the end of 2007 a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

6. *Commends* the professional, open and transparent referendum to determine the future status of Tokelau, held under United Nations supervision from 11 to 15 February 2006;

7. *Notes* that the referendum did not produce the two-thirds majority of the valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change the status of Tokelau as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand;

8. *Welcomes* the agreement of New Zealand and the Tokelau Council on Ongoing Government to maintain the referendum package of a draft constitution and draft treaty of free association as a possible future basis for an act of self-determination by Tokelau;

9. *Also welcomes* the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination; on the legitimate political status options, as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960; and on the experiences of other small States which have achieved a full measure of self-government;

10. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(a) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session;

(b) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(c) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend, as appropriate, to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(d) To finalize before the end of 2007 a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(e) To continue to dispatch visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(f) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(g) To take all necessary steps to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(h) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;[41]

11. *Recognizes* that the plan of action of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the case-by-case process of assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory, and the Plan of Implementation[2] for carrying out the decolonization mandate represent an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the end of 2010;

12. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that the economic activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

14. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources, including land, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

15. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

16. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

[41] See resolution 54/91.

17. *Calls upon* the administering Powers that have not participated formally in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its session in 2007;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

19. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 2006,[42] including the programme of work envisaged for 2007;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

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[42] Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/61/23).

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